

February 16, 2017

Senator Catherine Osten,

Senator Paul Formica,

Representative Toni Walker,

As a mother of two Museum Academy students (one preschooler, one second grader, and also one MA alumni), I can confidently say that all of my children are receiving (and have received) the finest of learning experiences at Museum Academy.

The Museum Academy education is so much more than what is taught in most elementary schools- it's through experiential, project-based learning that the children become creative problem solvers and self-directed learners. The school has partnerships with many local museums and art galleries, which provide outside opportunities to expand the knowledge they are attaining within the school itself. Parents are encouraged to be involved in this process in any capacity, attending field trips, volunteering in the classroom, and helping with the PTO, etc. For the preschoolers that cannot attend field trips yet, many of the museums will bring the field trip to the school for an expansion of their curriculum. Families are offered passes to visit these museums with their children to also see what they are learning about. At PTO meetings, educators will demonstrate how this hands-on learning is achieved, and give parents a chance to see how their children are learning to become thoughtful and inquisitive students, with a desire to know how and why.

My children have not only embraced the academic side of learning, they are also taking advantage of other opportunities, including the music program, running club, special events and festivals at the school. There are workshops designed for parents so that we can help our children's learning at home, because Museum Academy believes in the importance of working with the families to have the best possible outcome on the student's education and success.

I genuinely feel some of the finest educators can be found at Museum Academy, and am very grateful that my children have the exposure to this school and the passion for teaching and children found in the staff. The love of learning begins at home, and luckily for us, it is now nurtured within the hallways of Museum Academy.

Sincerely,

Melissa McWeeny